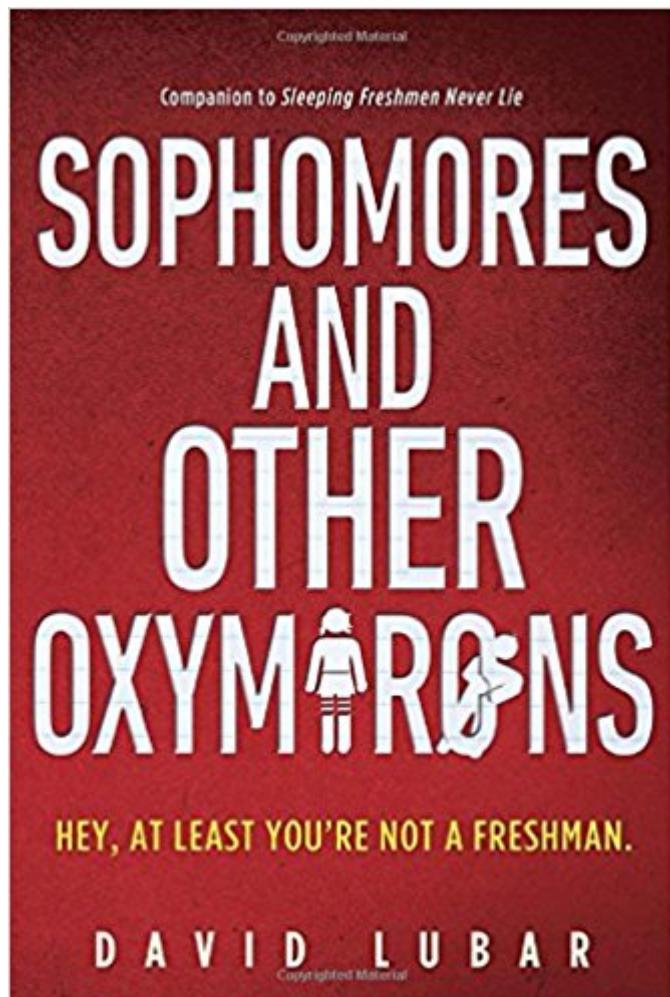


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# Sophomores And Other Oxymorons



## **Synopsis**

An honest and funny follow-up to the popular *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie* Scott Hudson has somehow managed to survive Freshman year. But with a new baby brother in the house and a whole host of adventures awaiting him at school, Sophomore year promises to be anything but boring. Award-winning author David Lubar pens a tale that perfectly captures the ridiculous, tumultuous, and sometimes heartbreakingly true truths about high school.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #146,644 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #94 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Bullying #234 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Humorous #247 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Bullies

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

Gr 7 Up *Up* - Scott's freshman year is over. The mistakes he made in *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie* (Dutton, 2005) are over and remedied. Now that he is a sophomore, he is confident - and less endearing than he was in the previous volume. The narrative plays out as Scott goes from one class to another throughout the school year. Scott's crush on the Sphinx-like Lee and his worries about his dad's business are underdeveloped adjuncts to the larger, less appealing story of the teen's mean-spirited commitment to one-upping his English teacher. When the teacher instructs Scott to write a 2,000 word essay on arrogance, he writes in favor of it. The rapport between student and teacher continues to deteriorate and Scott turns in a clever but cruel essay ridiculing the educator. Still, there are many moments of humor. Word-lovers will appreciate Zenger Zingers and

Scott's advisory comments to his baby brother, Sean. In the end, Scott acknowledges his wrongdoings, but given the intensity of his pride, his remorse lacks conviction. VERDICT Purchase where there are fans of the first book.  Jennifer Prince, Buncombe County Public Libraries, NC --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

"Ten years is a long time to wait for a sequel, but Lubar makes it worth our while."

 Booklist "Laugh-out-loud . . . Lubar uses his comedic voice to give the story a larger-than-life feel."  VOYA Praise for *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie*: "Hilarious . . . [Scott]'s physical and emotional tumult is as clear, familiar, and complex as high school itself."  School Library Journal "Amusing, accurate observations about freshman life, from the insecurities of first dates to the dangers of walking the hall between classes."  Booklist "[A] fresh, genuinely funny picture of an earnest yet hapless teen . . ."  BCCB

I purchased this at the request of a group of high school freshmen boys after they read Lubar's initial book in the series, "Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie." As an English teacher, nothing is more inspiring than to have students ASK for another novel to read. The boys enjoyed the first book so much they could not wait to read the second one.

Bought this for my teen son. A comical view of high school. My son related to the book and enjoyed both versions of the book. My son thinks it was a great read for him right now being a freshman in high school

I loved the first book and this book was just as good if not better than the first one if you haven't picked it up already you need to and read every breath taking moment for your self.

A great follow up to *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie*!

Witty, intelligent, and fresh. A perfect look into the mind of all teens with a few lessons for us adults, as well.

great book fot teens

Ordered for my grandson as required reading for 9th grade in NC.

Scott just finished a great summer with his friends, Lee and Wesley, and he is more than ready to start his sophomore year. After a chaotic freshmen year full of adventure and life lessons, Scott feels like he's ready to handle anything. At first he's right --- sophomore year starts out smoothly. Scott's already made a few new friends, helped a freshmen survive his first day and got assigned a great spot on the school paper. While his parents are busy with work and the new baby, they support Scott in every way they can.

Unfortunately, Scott's good luck doesn't last long. His biology teacher and English teacher both seem to have it out for him, and his grades are starting to slip because of it. Plus, Lee's dad doesn't seem to like Scott much either, which isn't great considering how much Scott wants to ask Lee out. As the year goes on, things seem to go from bad to worse. Scott's grades slip so low that he isn't allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities, including the paper. His plan to make money by selling copies of his freshman survival guide is foiled when someone uploads a copy online, free for all to see. Not to mention, Scott still hasn't asked Lee out on a real date and the school year is coming to a close. When the school paper and other clubs are cut from the school budget and his biology teacher is threatened to be fired for refusing to teach creationism, Scott knows he has to step up to the plate and get out of his sophomore slump for good. Funny and heartfelt, *SOPHOMORES AND OTHER OXYMORONS* is an excellent follow-up to author David Lubar's *SLEEPING FRESHMEN NEVER LIE*. While fans of *SLEEPING FRESHMEN NEVER LIE* will love this novel, people who haven't read the companion will also find it very enjoyable and will be able to follow along easily. Told through first person point of view narrative and journal entries, *SOPHOMORES AND OTHER OXYMORONS* is creatively written and a thoroughly fun read. The lovable characters and high school drama will draw readers in right away. While the book is pretty light-hearted for the most part, it definitely covers some more serious topics, including corruption in schools. However, the more serious parts were kept relatively short, and the overall feel of the novel is light and fun. Personally, I wish that Lubar would have covered the topic of suicide more deeply in this novel, as he touched on it in *SLEEPING FRESHMEN NEVER LIE*, and I feel like it is a serious issue in high schools nationwide. Otherwise, however, Lubar did a fantastic job of crafting a completely enjoyable read. Fans of *SLEEPING FRESHMEN NEVER LIE* will love seeing their favorite characters again, including Scott, Lee and Wesley. Scott is still a lovable book nerd, but in *SOPHOMORES AND OTHER OXYMORONS* he's ready to handle anything.

OTHER OXYMORONS he loses the nervousness from his freshmen year and gains a slightly arrogant air. The events of the novel, however, quickly lead him to realize that he doesn't know everything quite yet --- even if he did manage to survive his freshmen year successfully. Even with his flaws, Scott is a good character and a good guy that readers will really enjoy. Lee is also just as gothic as she was in the first novel. We see more of her in this book, which is great because she is such a fun character. She is highly opinionated and intelligent and a great friend to Scott. She is a lot friendlier and a little less snarky in this novel than she was in the last, but that is to be expected since she and Scott are closer friends in this novel --- I did miss some of her snark, though. Overall, Lubar created some quality characters who readers will love. Hopefully we will see more from Lubar --- perhaps a third and fourth novel detailing Scott's attempts to survive his last two years of high school?Reviewed by Alison S.

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